

## **NEWS**

For Immediate Release March 31, 2004 Ray Garibay State Director (360) 902-1940 Fax (360) 902-1940

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## WASHINGTON'S WHEAT STOCKS DOWN 15 PERCENT

**Olympia** - The quantity of wheat stored in all positions in Washington on March 1, 2004 was lower than the quantity being stored on March 1 a year earlier. Ray Garibay, State Statistician for the Washington Agricultural Statistics Service, stated that "Wheat stocks in Washington totaled 72.0 million bushels, a decrease of 15 percent from March 1, 2003. Barley stored in the state totaled 6.7 million bushels, a decrease of 7 percent from last year."

Wheat stored on farms in Washington on March 1, 2004, totaled 6.0 million bushels, down 2.5 million bushels from March 1, 2003. Off-farm wheat stocks totaled 66.0 million bushels, down 13 percent from a year ago.

The quantity of wheat stored in the **Pacific Northwest** (Washington, Oregon, and Idaho), on March 1, 2004 totaled

126.9 million bushels, 10 percent lower than last year. Onfarm stocks, at 18.5 million bushels, were down 6.0 million bushels from last year. Holdings off-farm were 108.4 million bushels, 7 percent less than a year ago. The quantity of wheat stored in the United States totaled 1.02 billion bushels, up 12 percent from a year ago.

Washington on-farm **barley** stocks, on March 1, 2004, totaled 1.0 million bushels, up 11 percent from a year ago. The quantity of barley stored in the state's off-farm storages was 5.7 million bushels, a decrease of 10 percent from last year. Pacific Northwest barley stocks in all positions totaled 33.1 million bushels on March 1, 2004, an increase of 7 percent from the quantity in storage on March 1, 2003. Nationally, barley stocks in all positions totaled 151.5 million bushels, up 23 percent from last year.

## GRAIN STOCKS: MARCH 1, 2003, DECEMBER 1, 2003 1/, & MARCH 1, 2004

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Crop/ Quarter	Washington			Pacific Northwest 2/			United States		
	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total	On-Farm	Off-Farm 3/	Total
	1,000 Bushels								
Wheat									
Mar. 1, 2003	8,500	76,063	84,563	24,500	117,146	141,646	236,300	670,333	906,633
Dec. 1, 2003	13,000	99,761	112,761	43,500	151,967	195,467	491,925	1,028,359	1,520,284
Mar. 1, 2004	6,000	66,041	72,041	18,500	108,393	126,893	257,890	761,141	1,019,031
<u>Barley</u>									
Mar. 1, 2003	900	6,343	7,243	9,450	21,634	31,084	36,730	86,710	123,440
Dec. 1, 2003	1,700	8,245	9,945	16,900	26,038	42,938	97,200	100,679	197,879
Mar. 1, 2004	1,000	5,711	6,711	10,600	22,546	33,146	51,700	99,784	151,484
<u>Oats</u>									
Mar. 1, 2003	*	134	*	*	1,108	*	35,000	47,879	82,879
Dec. 1, 2003	*	230	*	*	1,077	*	64,400	54,900	119,300
Mar. 1, 2004	*	177	*	*	975	*	45,600	49,469	95,069
<u>Corn</u>									
Mar. 1, 2003	*	7,291	*	*	10,721	*	2,940,000	2,191,873	5,131,873
Dec. 1, 2003	*	9,028	*	*	11,938	*	5,286,000	2,667,775	7,953,775
Mar. 1, 2004	*	5,012	*	*	7,807	*	3,030,000	2,240,641	5,270,641

- Revised.
- 2/ Includes Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.
- 3/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.
- \* Data not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.